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## Pat McDonnell

Regional Vice President

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FCC - MAILROOM

June 17, 2004

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: MB Docket No. 04-160

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This letter is to express my support of the NAB Petition seeking a Declaratory ruling on satellite radio's broadcasting of local weather and traffic, and future plans to expand their reach into local radio. In granting licenses for satellite radio, the FCC relied on the express promises by XM and Sirius that their service would be national-only. Because satellite radio would be national, local broadcasters would not be harmed. Now, XM and Sirius have blatantly broken their promises launching localized traffic and weather in the top 21 markets. It is in my opinion that this is only the beginning and that XM and Sirius view the sky as the limit in destroying local radio. Without FCC intervention, two companies, with 120 channels each will reach into every market and try to mimic local broadcasters.

Our radio stations give multiple traffic and weather reports an hour both as a community service and to make sure the citizens of Atlanta get to work on time. We also make a commitment to inform our listeners of severe weather conditions. Satellite Radio has no local investment in their communities. The elements of traffic and weather are both costly, but they are elements that we feel are necessary and profitable to keeping local radio alive.

Also, the \$9.6 billion dollars that broadcasters gave to their local communities in 2003 speaks volumes to our commitment to public service. Our stations have served the community by holding town hall meetings to discuss problems that our citizens face as well as helping local community groups such as The Atlanta Chapter of The American Red Cross, The Atlanta Community Food Bank, Children's Health Care of Atlanta, Hosea William's Feed The Hungry Foundation, The Georgia Chapter of The March of Dimes, among countless others. We also run

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a weekly public affairs program, entitled Georgia Focus. Can you count on XM and Sirius to provide community service? We need the FCC to protect vibrant local broadcasting and safeguard the important services that terrestrial radio provides. The FCC must clarify that XM and Sirius are national-only satellite radio services.

Sincerely yours,

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Pat McDonnell